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Senate

The Senate met at 10 a.m. and was called to order by the Honorable EDWARD J. MARKEY, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

PRAYER

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Today's prayer will be offered by Dr. Daniel McClure, American Legion national chaplain.

The guest Chaplain offered the following prayer:

Let us pray together.

Our Heavenly Father, Creator and Sustainer of all that we are or will be, thank You for Your care in our daily national concerns. History has revealed Your hand in our national affairs and how much our lawmakers need Your wisdom, courage, and grace. We ask a special endowment of mental strength and physical endurance in these dangerous but exciting times. Grant them the insight to know the path to follow the road of righteousness and the ethics others can admire.

We pray in Your holy Name. Amen.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Presiding Officer led the Pledge of Allegiance, as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

APPOINTMENT OF ACTING PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will please read a communication to the Senate from the President pro tempore (Mr. LEAHY).

The legislative clerk read the following letter:

U.S. SENATE,
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE,
Washington, DC, March 26, 2014.

To the Senate:

Under the provisions of rule I, paragraph 3, of the Standing Rules of the Senate, I hereby

appoint the Honorable EDWARD J. MARKEY, a Senator from the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, to perform the duties of the Chair.

PATRICK J. LEAHY,
President pro tempore.

Mr. MARKEY thereupon assumed the Chair as Acting President pro tempore.

RECOGNITION OF THE MAJORITY LEADER

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The majority leader is recognized.

PROTECTING VOLUNTEER FIREFIGHTERS AND EMERGENCY RESPONDERS ACT OF 2014—MOTION TO PROCEED

Mr. REID. I now move to proceed to Calendar No. 333.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The clerk will report the motion.

The legislative clerk read as follows:

Motion to proceed to Calendar No. 333, H.R. 3979, a bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to ensure that emergency services volunteers are not taken into account as employees under the shared responsibility requirements contained in the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I will be happy to yield to my friend, the senior Senator from Iowa.

The ACTING PRESIDENT pro tempore. The Senator from Iowa.

THE GUEST CHAPLAIN

Mr. GRASSLEY. I appreciate the majority leader yielding.

It has been a tradition in the U.S. Senate—usually this time of the year, when various veterans organizations come to Washington, DC, to testify for their membership before Congress about issues dealing with the veterans of all of our wars—for a person who is chaplain to be guest Chaplain. This year it is my privilege that person for the American Legion be from the State of Iowa.

We have just heard Dr. Daniel A. McClure give his prayer this morning.

Dr. McClure is a veteran of over 40 years' military service with the U.S. Army, Army Reserve, Air Force and National Guard. He retired from the military in 2005. With Vietnam veteran status, he joined the American Legion in 2001 and has since served as post chaplain, district chaplain, department chaplain, oratorical contest judge, and district chairman of the Americanism Commission and Boys State counselor. He is a member of The American Legion Leon Beatty Post 29 in Washington, IA.

Dr. McClure was ordained by the Heritage Baptist Church, Lakeland, FL, in 1979 and has pastored churches in Washington State, Montana, Florida and Iowa. He earned his doctorate at Luther Rice Seminary, Lithonia, GA in 1993. Though he retired from formal duties in 1999, McClure continues to volunteer in all aspects of the ministry.

Dr. McClure currently serves his country and community in a number of capacities. He is president and treasurer of the All Veterans Association, treasurer of the House of Heroes, board chairman of the Tree of Life Free Clinic, a patron of NRA, past president of the local Community Chest, past president of Kiwanis, works with the Lake Darling Youth Center and is chairman of 1st Baptist Church's deacon board in Yarmouth, IA.

Dr. McClure and his wife Marge have been married 48 years, raising a son and a daughter. The McClures are now the grandparents of three boys and one girl.

I am glad to have the privilege of an Iowan serving as the national chaplain of a great veterans organization—the American Legion.

I thank the majority leader.

SCHEDULE

Mr. REID. Mr. President, following my remarks and those of the Republican leader, the Senate will be in a period of morning business until 11 a.m., with the Republicans controlling the first half and the majority the final half.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.



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